

Testimony of
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Before

U. S. House of Representatives

Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

Wednesday, March 29, 2017, 10:00 a.m., Rayburn House Office Building, Room 2123

Members of the Sub-Committee, good morning and thank you for the privilege to appear before the sub-committee again to discuss the most recognized number in America.....9-1-1, and in particular the Next Generation of 9-1-1 (NG9-1-1).

My comments will focus on ten items.

1. The role of the federal government in establishing and fostering the 9-1-1 system, as it is known today.

1967.....FCC adopted 9-1-1 as the nation's universal emergency number

1968First 9-1-1 call made

1972.....Selective call routing implemented, i.e. Enhanced 9-1-1

1973.....DOJ Law Enforcement Assistance Administration (LEAA) established a Grant

program to promote and assist in funding implementation of 9-1-1 throughout the nation. This resulted in today there being approximately 6,100 9-1-1 centers in the U.S.

2016..... FCC issued Federal Advisory Committee Task Force on Optimal

PSAP/Public Safety Answering Point, (i.e. 9-1-1 center) Architecture...a way forward to implementing NG9-1-1

2. The impact of the 9-1-1 system over the past 49 years.

Millions of lives and trillions of dollars of property saved

3. The three most significant technological advancements on 9-1-1 during that period.

1972.....Selective Call Routing to direct 9-1-1 calls to the closest 9-1-1 center and

include the calling # (ANI) and the location of the calling # (ALI) when made from a “wireline” phone

1987.....Cellular Telephones introduced leading to 75-80 % of 9-1-1 calls

currently received made from mobile phones

1995.....Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) introduced

4. The public’s expectation of NG9-1-1.

To Voice or Text 9-1-1

Call/Text received at the closest appropriate 9-1-1 center

Accurately identify the location of the caller/text-er

Allow the caller/text-er to send photos, video, data, selective important medical information, etc.

5. The need for a Next Generation of 9-1-1.

State-of-the-art 9-1-1 center call handling equipment

9-1-1 call routing based on GIS/GPS location technology

Robust and secure Emergency Services Internet Protocol Network (ESInet) which can be shared by other public safety agencies

Provide the ability to transfer a 9-1-1 call and the information associated with it from one 9-1-1 center to another 9-1-1 center

Accurate location of the caller and, if in a building, where in a building they are located

6. How to transition from Legacy 9-1-1 to NG 9-1-1.

There are various ways and each requires a commitment to advocate, act, cooperate and fund

7. Challenges, impediments and opportunities impacting the transition to NG9-1-1.

Cost

Funding

Collaborative strategy

Economy of scale

Governance

Elimination any 9-1-1 fee diversion

8. How much will NG9-1-1 cost and options for funding?

Depends on each NG9-1-1 deployment

Willingness to consider and embrace a NG operational paradigm model

Willingness to consider and embrace a NG funding paradigm model

9. Who are the beneficiaries of NG9-1-1?

Every man, woman, and child; in every State, the District of Columbia, Territory and

Tribal Nation in the United States

10. Not deploying NG9-1-1 is not an option.

9-1-1 is America's "go to" number in time of an emergency and the most recognized number in U.S.

Thank you again and I welcome any questions you may have.